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23. (New) An apparatus for controlling the shutdown of an internal combustion engine, comprising:

an intake manifold configured to conduct an intake charge of air to an intake port of the internal combustion engine;

5 an electronic throttle configured to alter said intake charge of air to said intake port of the internal combustion engine, wherein said electronic throttle includes an electric motor to move a throttle plate; and

10 a computerized controller configured to control said throttle such that a substantial termination of said intake charge of air is provided during the shutdown of the internal combustion engine.

24. (New) An apparatus for controlling the shutdown of an internal combustion engine, comprising:

an intake manifold configured to conduct an intake charge of air to an intake port of the internal combustion engine;

5 an electronic throttle configured to alter said intake charge of air to said intake port of the internal combustion engine, wherein said electronic throttle includes an electric motor to move a throttle plate; and

a controller configured to control said throttle such that a substantial termination of said intake charge of air is provided during the shutdown of the internal combustion engine.

R E M A R K S

This amendment is in response to the Advisory Action mailed on March 11, 2003, wherein Claims 1-21 were rejected. Claims 22-24 have been added and Claims 1-24 remain pending.